

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USBERL 00067 01 OF 02 111004Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-12 OES-07 OMB-01 /079 W
-----115554 111014Z /10

R 110804Z JAN 78
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6000
AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USBERLIN 0067

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, WB, GW, BQG
SUBJECT: FRG PRESENCE IN BERLIN

REF: 77 DEC A-145

BEGIN SUMMARY: BERLIN CDU BUNDESTAG MEMBER JUERGEN WOHLRABE CLAIMED IN INTERVIEW JANUARY 6 THAT THE NUMBER OF BUNDESTAG BODIES MEETING IN WEST BERLIN HAD INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY IN 1977 DUE TO EFFORTS OF BUNDESTAG PRESIDENT CARSTENS (CDU). WOHLRABE ALSO ANNOUNCED PLANS FOR SEVEN BUNDESTAG COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN BERLIN DURING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1978. WOHLRABE'S STATEMENT MIGHT POSSIBLY PROMPT SOVIET REACTION. OR OWN RESEARCH INDICATES THE TOTAL NUMBER OF FEDERAL AND LAND OFFICIALS AND GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS WHICH CAME TO BERLIN IN 1977 WAS VIRTUALLY THE SAME AS IN 1976. NUMBER OF VISITS BY FRG OFFICIALS AND THE NUMBER OF MEETINGS IN BERLIN BY NATIONAL PARTY ORGANIZATIONS DID INCREASE SUBSTANTIALLY IN 1977 HOWEVER. THE NUMBER OF BUNDESTAG COMMITTEE MEET-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USBERL 00067 01 OF 02 111004Z

INGS ANNOUNCED FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1978 APPEARS SLIGHTLY BELOW AVERAGE. END SUMMARY.

1. ARTICLE APPEARING IN JANUARY 6 BERLINER MORGENPOST, BERLIN CDU BUNDESTAG DEPUTY JERGEN WOHLRABE CLAIMED THAT THE NUMBER OF BUNDESTAG COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS MEETING IN WEST BERLIN HAD INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY SINCE THE

BEGINNING OF THE PRESENT ELECTORAL PERIOD. WOHLRABE ATTRIBUTES THE ALLEGED INCREASE TO THE ACTIVITIES OF CDU PEADER KARL CARSTENS WHO TOOK OVER AS BUNDESTAG PRESIDENT IN DECEMBER 1976. WOHLRABE CLAIMS THAT IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE BUNDESTAG TO SEN ITS COMMITTEES REGULARLY TO BERLIN IN ORDER TO CONVINCE PRIVATE ORGAIN--TIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GERMAN ECONOMY THAT THEY SHOULD DEMONSTRATE THEIR ENGAGEMENT IN THE CITY. WOHLRABE CLAIMED IN ADDITION, THE SPD AND FDP HAD THEIR BUNDESTAG CUCUSES MEET IN BERLIN.

2. LOOKING TO 1978, WOHLRABE ANNOUNCED THAT SEVEN BUNDESTAG COMMITTEE MEETINGS HAVE BEEN SCHEDLUED IN BERLIN DURING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS AT THE REQUEST OF BUNDESTAG PRESIDENT CARSTENS AND THE COUNCIL OF ELDERS (AELTESTERAT). THESE INCLUDED THE COMMITTEES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY, LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS, BUDGETARY AFFAIRS, EDUCATION AND SCIENCE, CITY PLANNING, AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS. THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WILL BE MEETING IN BERLIN FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1969.

3. TNEOR OF THE MORGENPOST ARTICLE, WHICH REPORTS WOHLRABE'S STATEMENT, IS SUCH AS TO LEAVE THE CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT THE VOLUME OF FEDERAL ACTIVITIES, IN PARTICULAR THOSE OF THE BUNDESTAG, INCREASED SUBSTANTIALY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USBERL 00067 01 OF 02 111004Z

IN 1977 OVER PREVIOUS YEARS, AND THAT THE NUMBER OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR 1978 IS GREATER THAN USUAL. GIVEN RECENT SOVIET OBJECTIONS TO WHAT THE SOVIETS CONSIDER TO BE AN INCREASED FRG POLITICAL PROFILE IN THE CITY, SOME FORM OF SOVIET REACTION IN THE COMING DAYS OR WEEKS IS POSSIBLE. CONSEQUENTLY, THE MISSION HAS DONE SOME RESEARCH TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE NEW PLANNED LEVEL OF FEDERAL ACTIVITY IN BERLIN IS HIGHER THAN USUAL. WE FIND NO REPEAT NO SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN FEDERAL ACITVITIES IN 1977 OVER 1976, (WITH TWO MINOR EXCEPTIONS) AND BELIEVE THE PROJECTED NUMBER OF BUNDESTAG COMMITTEES IN 1978 TO BE SLIGHTLY BELOW AVERAGE.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USBERL 00067 02 OF 02 111009Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-12 OES-07 OMB-01 /079 W
-----115574 111013Z /10

R 110804Z JAN 78
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6001
AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USBERLIN 0067

4. ACCORDING TO OUR RECORDS, THE NUMBER OF MEETINGS IN BERLIN OF FEDERAL, LAND, AND NATIONAL PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS AND THE NUMBER OF VISITS TO BERLIN BY FEDERAL OFFICIALS IN 1976 TOTALLED 208. IN 1977, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS AND MEETINGS IN THESE SAME CATEGORIES WAS 214. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BUNDESTAG AND BUNDESRAT COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN BERLIN IN 1976 WAS 22 (18 IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1976). IN 1977, BUNDESTAG AND BUNDESRAT COMMITTEES MET IN WEST BERLIN 26 TIMES (13 TIMES IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS). IN ALL BUT TWO OTHER CATEGORIES, THE NUMBER OF VISITS AND MEETINGS BY WEST GERMAN OFFICIALS AND ORGANIZATIONS IN BERLIN WERE VIRTUALLY THE SAME IN 1977 AND 1976. THE TWO EXCEPTIONS WERE: VISITS BY FEDERAL OFFICIALS (48 IN 1977 AS OPPOSED TO 25 IN 1976), AND MEETINGS BY NATIONAL POLITICAL PARTY ORGANIZATIONS (17 IN 1977 AS OPPOSED TO THREE IN 1976). THE THREE FEDERAL OFFICIALS WHO VISIT BERLIN MOST FREQUENTLY ARE THE FEDERAL PRESIDENT, INTERIOR MINISTER, AND ECONOMICS MINISTER. ALL MEMBERS OF THE FREE DEMOCRATIC PARTY (FDP).
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USBERL 00067 02 OF 02 111009Z

THE DRAMATIC INCREASE IN MEETINGS BY NATIONAL POLITICAL PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IS THE RESULT OF REPEATED MEETINGS IN BERLIN BY VARIOUS SEGMENTS OF THE NATIONAL SPD.

5. COMMENT: WE WERE AMAZED BY THE CONSISTENCY OF THE NUMBERS OF WEST GERMAN ACTIVITIES IN BERLIN IN 1977 AND 1976, AND WERE SURPRISED TO LEARN HOW FREQUENTLY

SENIOR FDP OFFICIALS APPEAR IN THE CITY. WE DO NOT KNOW
WHETHER THE SOVIETS WILL RESPOND TO WOHLRABE'S (UNJUSTI-
FIED) HORN TOOTING ON BEHALF OF HIS PARTY BUT SHOULD
THEY DO SO, WE THINK WE SHOULD BURSH OFF ANY APPROACH
WITH THE OBSERVATION :
(A) ANY INCREASE IN THE FREQUENCY OF VISITS OF SUCH
PERSONS OR MEETINGS OF SUCH BODIES IN THE WSB IS ENTIRELY
CONSISTENT WITH THE QA;AND
(B) AS A MATTER OF FACT, THERE HAS BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT
INCREASE IN SUCH VISITS OR MEETINGS OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS.
GEORGE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USBERL00067
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780016-0150
Format: TEL
From: USBERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780174/aaaackoz.tel
Line Count: 181
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e93e8be4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3791030
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG PRESENCE IN BERLIN
TAGS: PGOV, WB, GE, BQG
To: STATE BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e93e8be4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014